

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANILA 19990 280942Z  
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03  
INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02  
CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 L-03 H-01 NSC-05 SS-15  
STR-04 CEA-01 PA-01 PRS-01 AGRE-00 /083 W  
-----281022Z 008054 /17

R 280905Z DEC 76  
FM AMEMBASSY MANILA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4335

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 19990

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: NONE  
SUBJECT: GOP PLANS TO AID IDLE SUGAR WORKERS

REF: CEBU 0085

1. TIMES-JOURNAL REPORTED DEC 28 IN FRONT PAGE ARTICLE THAT LABOR DEPARTMENT WILL UNDERTAKE A PROJECT NEXT YEAR TO HELP UNEMPLOYED SUGAR WORKERS ON ISLAND OF NEGROS TO FIND JOBS. LABOR SECRETARY BLAS OPLE HAS REPORTEDLY DIRECTED AT LEAST FOUR AGENCIES UNDER HIM TO DRAW UP EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE SCHEMES. OPLE SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED A MANPOWER TRAINING PROGRAM TO BE CONDUCTED BY THE NATIONAL MANPOWER AND YOUTH COUNCIL, SEAMAN TRAINING COURSES MANAGED BY THE NATIONAL SEAMEN BOARD AND SELF-EMPLOYMENT PROJECTS.

2. COMMENT: IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN WHETHER OR NOT THESE PROJECTS WILL EVER BE REALIZED AND IF THEY ARE, WHETHER OR NOT THEY WILL SUCCEED IN EASING UNEMPLOYMENT IN NEGROS. ROUGHLY 80 PERCENT OF THE JOBS ON NEGORS ARE RELATED TO SUGAR PRODUCTION, AND THE PRESENT LOW SUGAR PRICES HAVE ALREADY ACTED TO SLW CANE HARVESTING AND MILLING. THE RESULTING UNEMPLOYMENT IS EXPECTED TO INCREASE DURING THE FIRST THREE QUARTERS OF 1977. FEARS HAVE  
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BEEN EXPRESSED BY SOME KNOWLEDGEABLE PEOPLE IN THE NEGROS AREA THAT SUGAR WORKERS, JOBLESS AND HUNGER, MAY BE DRIVEN TO ACTS OF CIVIL DISORDER (ALTHOUGH AMCONSULATE CEBU (REFTEL) REPORTS SITUATION DOES NOT APPEAR THREATENING AT PRESENT.) SECRETARY OPLE'S STATEMENT IS STILL ANOTHER INDICATION THAT GOP IS AWARE OF POTENTIAL

PROBLEMS IN THE SUGAR REGIONS AND IS MAKING SOME EFFORT  
(IF ONLY VERBAL, FOR THE MOMENT) TO DEAL WITH THEM.  
SULLIVAN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** UNEMPLOYMENT, SUGAR  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 28 DEC 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** izenbei0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976MANILA19990  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Reference:** 77 CEBU 85  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** izenbei0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 02 JUN 2004  
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**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** GOP PLANS TO AID IDLE SUGAR WORKERS  
**TAGS:** EPAP, ELAB, RP  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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